

# **Public Notice**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 200200804

Date: May 23, 2002

Notice No. 02-M2

Closing Date: June 24, 2002

- 1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is given that the Pittsburgh District, pursuant to Section 101 of Public Law 102-580 (Water Resource Development Act of 1992) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, proposes to place fill in connection with the disposal of dredged and excavated material from the Lower Monongahela River Project.
- 2. <u>EXISTING CONDITIONS</u>: Additional quantities of placement activities publicized as part of Public Notice No. 98-M2 are now revised due to project refinement.
- 3. <u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK</u>: The proposed work would consist of the placement of material from the Monongahela River into the Allegheny River. The Allegheny River Pools 4 and 5 placement would be between Lock 4 at Mile 24.2 and Lock 6 at Mile 36.3. See attachments for specific locations.

New survey and hydraulic modeling have been completed for Pools 4 and 5, Allegheny River. The data indicates that the maximum capacities of fill material for Pools 4 and 5 have increased as follows: Pool 4 increased from 290,000 cubic yards to 433,000 cubic yards; Pool 5 increased from 341,000 cubic yards to 1,200,000 cubic yards (see attachments), bringing the river bottom to elevation 716 in Pool 4 areas and elevation 730 in Pool 5 areas. The actual amount that will be placed may be less than the capacities stated above, but in no case will it exceed these amounts. The placement activities would be accomplished with a derrickboat equipped with a clamshell from barges to the river bottom. The contractor would have the option to use dump scow placement with the conditions implemented to minimize turbidity.

- 4. WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A decision will not be made on whether to proceed with this proposed work until the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), issues, denies, or waives Water Quality Certification. This public notice serves as application to the PADEP for Water Quality Certification.
- 5. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATIONS</u>: A Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) entitled "Lower Monongahela River Project, Locks and Dams 2, 3, and 4, Disposal of Dredged and

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Excavated Material, January 1998, has been prepared by the District and distributed to Federal, State, and local government officials and agencies, and the public.

- 6. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The District has a Programmatic Agreement Among the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and The Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Modernization of the Lower Monongahela River Navigation System. This agreement assures full compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).
- 7. <u>FISH AND WILDLIFE COORDINATION</u>: This Public Notice is a supplemental notification to coordination efforts conducted during preparation of the SEIS that fulfills the coordination requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for these project features.
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any 9. objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important The benefit which reasonably may be expected to resources. accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are also used to

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determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any questions regarding this Public Notice should be directed to Mr. Albert Rogalla at (412) 395-7155. Please refer to CELRP-OR-F 02-M2 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

Albert H. Røgalla

Chief, Regulatory Branch

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## FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCIES FOR COORDINATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 02-M2

## Federal Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region III

U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director St. Paul, Minnesota Boston, Massachusetts Field Representative State College, Pennsylvania

U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Oxford, Maryland Ann Arbor, Michigan

U.S. Department of Transportation Commander, Second Coast Guard District St. Louis, Missouri

U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service Regional Director Tallahassee, Florida Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### State Agencies

Governor - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Quality Management

Pennsylvania Fish Commission

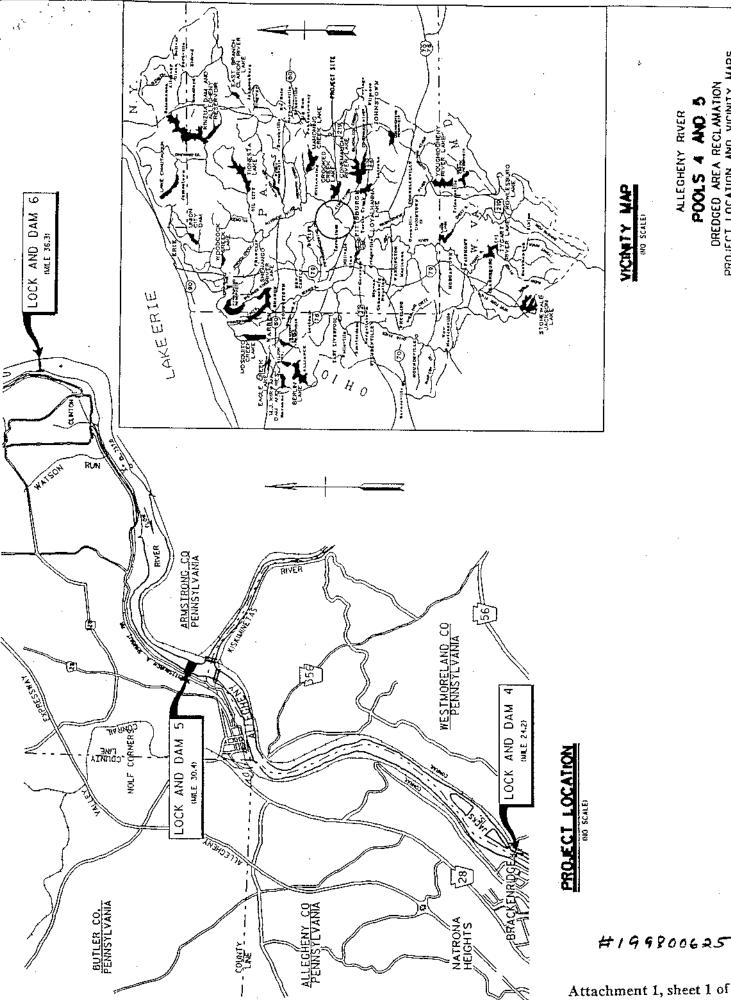
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Pennsylvania Game Commission

#### Local Agencies

Commissioner, County Engineers, and Municipalities in the immediate vicinity of work



PROJECT LOCATION AND VICINITY MAPS U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGMERS PHYSBURGH, PA

Attachment 1, sheet 1 of 3

